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6 CTS. A NUMBER

# LITERARY MATTERS.

- Burley, the rebel raider, is somewhere in Scotland, polishing up his memory and his memoirs. He purposes to witch the old world with noble horsemanship.
- A Modenese journal, is boasting of a type machine by which five lines of verse, each containing thirty letters, can be set up in nine seconds. Heaven forbid that it should come into general use till the race of Tuppers and Tupperesses shall have disappeared.
- Dr. Shelton Mackenzie is preparing a volume of his "Personal Reminiscences," which will probably be continued, unless somebody stops him, to the last recorded syllable of the Doctor's time.
- Private Miles O'Reilly Is about to issue a volume entitled "The Scribblings of a Year." Anything written by the Private will be sure to fail its way to the Public.
- —John Savage proposes to give a lecture on "The United Irishmen": where he is going to find United Irishmen, is another question.
- William Gilmore Simmes is amusing himself getting up a collection of the leading war-poems written during the Rebellion. Simmes himself will figure in it extensively,—a fact which will, at least, prevent the book from having an undue sale.
- M. D. Conway, the literary Jenkins, in England, of the ROUND TABLE, writes: "I saw Dickens, the other day, and Time is beginning to tell on him." Who would have thought Time could be so impolite? Dickens, by the way, to the great horror of the "unco guid" is about giving a series of secular lectures in London on Sunday. Now, everybody will "tell on him."
- The Bishop of Lincoln (England) has written a letter against the pew-letting system on the ground that it "leavens devotion with selfishness." An American edition of the letter may be looked for, edited by Henry Ward Beecher.
- A new war-novel is to be commenced in the next number of HARPER'S WEEKLY, entitled "Inside." It is written by a Southerner, whose wife used to carry the manuscript to church to prevent its being stolen and exposed. This touching instance of devotion will possibly make the novel popular, independent of its merits.

- Stephens, the Fenian, is said to have translated several of Dickens' works into French: since then, it is reported that he has translated himself into France.
- It is proposed to open an International Theatre in Paris, during the Exhibition of 1867, in which plays will be performed in German, English and Italian—not to mention Greek, Spanish and American.
- Edmund About has published a volume on life-assurance, in which he says that for every person who has a policy in France, seven thousand have one in England: showing that England (as was pretty well known before) is the greatest country for assurance in the world.
- Signor Blitz is about publishing a volume of his travels and experiences as a wizard. Whether the book is to be a trick or not, doesn't appear.
- John R. Thompson, formerly editor of the Sourness Largester Manufactor, is said to have found congenial employment on the London Traces.
- Josh Billings says he has waited pashuntly now for more than twenty-five years for the millenium to commense—and jist look at butter fifty cents a pound.
- Ruskin's new book is entitled "The Ethics of Dust: Ten Lectures to Little Housewives on the Elements of Crystallization."
- —Bentley, London, has just published a new novel, by Florence Marryat, entitled "Woman against Woman."
- —Barnum's "Humbugs of the World" has just been republished in London: also a new and revised edition of "Munchausen;" illustrated by Gustav Doré.
- Louis Napoleon's "Life of Cæsar" is a failure; so is "The Correspondence of Napoleon I."; the Emperor has to guarantee the publishers, in both instances, against loss.
- Messrs. Bunce & Huntington, of this city, have just published a charming volume of verse by Charles D. Gardette, under the title of "The Fire Flend and other Poems." Many of the poems, including the principal one, which gives the title to the book, were printed originally in the SATURDAY PRESS.

(For the Saturday Press )

JOSH BILLINGS ON SKATING.

Having herd mutch sed about skating-parks, and the grate amount ov helth and muscle they wos imparting tew the present generashun at a slite advanse from fust cost, i bought a ticket and went within the fense.

I found the ice in a slippery condishun, covering about 5 akers ov artyfishall water, which was owned bi a stock company, and froze tew order.

Upon one side ov the pond waz erekted little grosery buildings, where the wimmin sot on benches while the fellers (kivvered with blushes) hitched the magick iron tew their feet.

It was a most exsiting scene: the sun was in the skey—and the wind was in the air—and the birds ware in the South—and the snow was on the ground—and the ice lay shivering with hold—and angells (ov both genders) fluktuated past me pro and con, 2 and fro, here a little and thare a good deal.

It was a most exsiting scene; i wanted tew holler "Bully," or lay down and rool over.

But i kept in, and aked with glory.

Helth waz pikturd on menny a nobell brow. Az the femail angells put out ov the pond, side by side with the male angells, it waz the most powerfull scene i ever stood behind.

The long red tape from their necks swum in the breeze, and the featherz in their Jockeys flutterd in the breeze, and other things (tew mutch to menshun) flutterd in the breeze.

I don't think i ever waz more crazy before in mi life—on ice.

For 2 long hours i stood and gazed with dum exsitement.

I felt like a kanall hoss turned suddinly out

I didn't kno how tew proceed.

Az one ov the angells, more sudden than awl the rest, cum flieing down the trak, 8 lengths ahed ov her male angell, awl eyes ware gorging with her heavenly bust ov speed; she seemed tew hav cut luce from earth, and was bound South, for the Cape of Good Hope, when awl tew onst, with gorgours swoop terriffick, down-crumbling into a limpid heap she went, with squeal terrifick, a living lovely mass ov dissastrus skirt and tapring ankle.

Awl gatherd around the bursted angell; but lo! in a minnitt's space, her wings agin was plumed, and evry feather was in its lawful place; and on she fled, laffing like wine thru its buteous blushes.

I had saw enuff—more happyness has be longed tow me—and as i slot mended that tow mi hum at the tavern i felt—good.

ON A FARM.

III.

A Burlington, N. J., Jan. 6, 1866.

DEAT PRES:-

I ought to date these scribblings from near Burlington.

For my 'umble cot is situate some mile and a half from that quiet and charmingly oldfashioned little city, on a Pike.

When one lives in the country it is a good thing to be on a Pike.

At least I have been told so.

The principal feature about a Pike that I can discover (and therein it resembles a grist mill) is that it takes toll.

Then, I am told (no pun intended) that it will be a fine road to haul "truck" and fruit over next summer and autumn; and I have no doubt it will be.

Behold me, then, beneath my own vine and persimmon tree, in the midst of some acres of strawberries, raspberries, peaches and blackberries, whiling away the hours of wintry evening writing to you.

Seriously, revered Press, I am in a very good spot. And there are many more such about here; several for sale.

It is great land, this, for fruit and things, old sage cit: and if any of your friends and readers desire to settle down comfortably in a most desirable neighborhood, I can tell them just how to do it.

Let them take the Camden and Amboy monopoly's boat or cars, come on to Burlington, and inquire for Mr. Edmund Morris.

They will find a genial gentleman (and very pleasing writer too, by the way) who takes such pleasure in showing to strange gentlemen the eligible farms for sale about here that he' almost makes a business of it.

This is no "puff," oh Press (I know you too well to try that on with you): the truth is that my friend the author of "Ten Acres Enough," "Farming for Boys," etc, is doing so much for the neighborhood by getting good people here (he got me here) that I like to help the thing along.

That's all.

Living in the country one enjoys a good book, a good magazine, (or a good paper, for instance) much more than in the hurried and crowded city.

Old friends, old books and old wine (if the latter were to be had anywhere in this favored land) have a sest here that you know nothing of.

HARPER, as an example, is now pleasanter to me than ever.

I read all its articles, original and otherwise, with a relish I never knew before.

After learning from its record of current Events what has occurred up to the fifth of the last month, and sitting for a while in its "Rasy Chair" I turn enraptured to fit Editor's Drawer.

It attonishes me to think of the intelled that composes and that empty the joke is that miscellaneous collection. I drop a tear of pleased recollection over the anecdotes that delighted my infertoy, and I am struck dumb with admiration at the richness of original with mose I have beverant before.

authors of the new ones, and I write the following, which I assure you, on my honor, that solve peared in the pages I allude to:

Old Sol. B. of the town of A. C. county, Tennessee, was a dry old rustic wit and joker well known in those parts some twenty years

One evening old Sol, was sitting in the barroom with a miscellaneous crowd of village
leafers, when a venerable stranger, mounted
on a raw-boned steed with a Roman nose, rode
up to the door, dismounted, handed over his
animal to a gigantic African who acted as
hostler, and entered the room. Old Sol. arose,
and the company knew by the twinkle in his
eye that something rich was coming.

"Good evening, stranger," said he, "coolish night for the time of year. You look 'eenamost froze out!"

"Well 'tis cold," said the stranger: then drawing himself to his full height, he continued: "Take suthin?"

"Wall, stranger," said old Sol., "I don't care of I do!"

When the roars of laughter had subsided, the stranger acknowledged the corn, and treated all 'round.

I've been studying over the above for some time, and I can't find the point to it.

The dickens of it is 'twas built on a model, and come to look at my models I fail to see a point there.

I suppose that one gets muddled after living some time in the country.

But, seriously now, if you can find a joke in the above do let me know when you write again.

And, by the way, I do not think that your offer for my horse "Pete" was quite up to the

It may seem to you that fifteen dollars, minus the freight to New York, is a fair price for him, but to me it seems rather low.

No, I shant take it.

My dog has turned up again. My first dog—the one I wrote you of in my last letter.

You see I had got a good dog.

I have him still.

He is a fine bull-terrier of a large size and capacious jaws—all head and shoulders and sinewy thighs.

I found him in Burlington in the possession of a party of rough looking young gentlemen who haunt an oyster saloon near the river.

I am afraid they never bought him of any one, they were so anxious to sell him, and so

In the beautiful simplicity of the American tongue they called him "Bu-ry" (sounding like fury) that being their affectionate abbreviation of the name of the gallant warrior Beauteeard.

Unlike the worthy he was named after, he was the here of many successful engagements, and bore honorable scars all about his sagadious countenance.

As, item, one ear slitted to ribbons; item,

at an objected for ever in the heat of some

The ardor with which he "pinned" anything he was directed to "take care of" delighted inc.

An account of his recent killing of a butcher's dog sharmed me.

The low figure he was put at took me captive and I purchased him on the spot, changing his name to "Beauty," as the most purely original one to be found.

I took him home, and have kept him home very carefully.

That dog is not for sale.

Well, a night or two since, my slumbers were broken by the most frightful series of diabolical sounds under my windew. It was a discord composed of snarling, yelling, growling, roaring, snapping and howling.

I arose and gazed forth from my casement, when mine eyes beheld a scene thrilling beyond description.

Two large animals were evidently in deadly

One was tall, bony, awkward, uncouth; the other was active, lithe, vigorous, determined.

I saw how it was. Some strange dog had come about the premises, and "Beauty" was teaching him that the way of the transgressor is hard.

I continued to watch the fight by the pale light of the tranquil moon till I saw my dog get the better of his antagonist, and then I retired to bed with a peaceful conscience and soon sank to rest.

In the morning I repaired to the scene of conflict. There was "Beauty," complacently licking his chops and wagging his tail; there, also, were gore, bunches of hair, and the dead body of a large black dog.

I turned the corpse over and beheld, now calm in death, the well known lineaments of the dog I took on trial.

Yes! It was too true! The faithful creature had come again to my residence, in search of fresh beef, and death had been the reward of his fidelity!

WARREN.

RED HAIR,

It is not certain that the golden-haired have so completely had their revenge as M. Jules Deniset, in an article called "The Revence of the Red Headed," is disposed to maintain. He goes back to Rome in the time of the Cmeans to remind his countrymen that in those days the mad and the bad among women were or dered by the edile-or, as M. Denizet says, the Perfect of Police of the period-to wear red hair. Red hair, then, was a mark of degradation. I would ask M. Denizet, who are the ladies who have brought red hair into fashion again? The red heads one sees in gay Victorias in the Chaussée d'Antin are not those whom Diana would welcome in her train. In vain are we reminded that even thieves in their slang so general is the antipathy to red people call the police the rouse; and that fashion has in a season destroyed the evil reputation of red hair. The red chignen that is proudly set up as a flag of glory has not changed much, it seems to me, since the days of the Romans. The givers of the red fashion are not models to be followed in any

respect. It may be through them the rehabilitation of the red-headed may be achieved in the eyes of the vulgar; but what if M. Denizet be told that what he calls red hair has been "rehabilitated" for very many years, and that only the vulgar, the unlettered, the unartistic, have called it by opprobrious names! With the intellectual and the refined the hair which is now in vogue has always been deemed a beauty. In their mad race for change, the ladies who lead fashion from the rear of Notre-Dame-de-Lorette have responded to the taste of the educated, to the fancy of the artist; and many black heads have been reddened for the delectation of many black sheep.

It is a pity, and this is what must be regreted, that the impudent paintings, and dyeings, and transformations of ces dames have influenced decent people, and led foolish women to talk about red hair or golden hair being in fashion, as though the glory of a "goldentressed Adelaide" could be bought and adjusted like a bonnet! It would be as reasonable to talk about snub noses being in fashion. Let the Breda ladies dye their hair the color they may please to wear it-nay, let them variegate it, as they have already the coats of their poodles; but it must not be said that it is they who brought into favor the goldenhaired. The ruddy gold has always been the fashion-in every studio, in every poem, in every drawing-room. If the present rage for the color of Venus, of Dian, of the early virgins, does anything at all worth note, it is just to make the beautiful tress a little vulgar.

Now, here are a few of M. Denizet's reflections on the rehabilitation of the redheaded:

"The Romans got enormous quantities of hair from Germany. Most of it in the present day comes also from Germany, as well as Brittany and Normandy. Paris annually exports upwards of 100,000 kilograms (about 200,000 pounds) to England and America. A few years ago its price, from a living head, was from five to ten francs the kilogram, according to the length and color. Red hair, which was formerly unsaleable, except for dyeing, is this year at a premium; but the rage cannot last long. Hair of this color is generally coarse and harsh, and taste will, no doubt, soon return to black and blonde, which are twice as fine and three times as soft and glossy. Red hair dries, black and blonde thicken.

"The first preparation which hair undergoes immediately raises its price to eighty nes the kilogram. In our time the rehabililation of the red-haired commenced in the 'Juif Errant,' in which Eugene Sue depicted Mdlle. de Cordoville in such glowing colors that, for her charming sake, the hitherto despised shade rose a little in public opinion. How many persons have we known seeking, by every means in their power, to turn the heated red into brown or chestnut! Oils, pomades, brass and leaden combs, were the supposed remedies, and, these failing, dye was resorted to.

"At school, the red-haired boy or girl was the butt for every joke, the scapegoat for every mischievous trick and escapade. If an inquiry was made as to the perpetrator of any offence, 'It was the rouquin who did it,' chorused the boys; 'It was the rouguine,' oried the girls! Children whose heads were dressed

in red lost their patronymic at school, and were simply known as the require or the require If, as was generally the case, freckles were an accompaniment, the victim was said to 'bear the brand of Judas' in his face.

"What wonder then if, with this treatment, the red-haired child became sullen and disagreeable, and in some sort merited the reputation given him beforehand? In the tale of "The Fair One with the Golden Hair," no child could ever have imagined the face of the beautiful princess framed in red locks! Her hair must have been fine threads of real gold! As to a red-haired princess, such a thing was never heard of! The fairy tale would have lost all its interest in the eyes of children had such a heroine been possible. Cooks even of this color were looked upon with dislike. Mistresses pretended that the peculiar odor of their hair lent itself unpleasantly to the sauces, turned the milk, and spoiled the jams!

"Now all this is changed; red hair is the mode. The young mother prays that her coming babe, if a girl, may have red locks, and, if it has, its fortune is made. The red-haired beauty is taking her revenge; she carries her chignon like a flag, and gathering under it, aided by fashion, every shade of chestnut, blonde, and black, transforms them all into red. But tout passe, tout lasse, and to-morrow the mode may change. However, although the triumph of the red-haired may prove but that of a season-their glory but ephemeral-still there is no doubt that they will never descend to their former disagreeable position The prejudice of ages having once been removed, they have been admitted to an equality with their more favored sisters. But now a word of advice and warning: let them descend a few steps of the ladder they have climbed so triumphantly, lest a speedy reaction may precipitate them therefrom."

M. Denizet is mistaken. It is not the legitimate owners of red or golden hair who are exulting. The proud wearers of golden tresses are the ladies who have bought their chignons. The saucy airs of triumph are put on by those who have black hair, and can afford to stain it to the fashionable tint.-London ATHENÆUM.

(From the London Reader.)

JAPANESE FANS.

Japanese art has not, hitherto, received the attention that it deserves. It is distinct from Chinese art, and is in every respect superior to it. It is also, in many qualities superior to our own; and a careful examination of it will enable us to glean many hints, not only as to technical processes, but in drawing, composition and color. Like their neighbors the Chinese, the Japanese treat art almost entirely from a decorative point of view, and it is probably from no want of capacity that they do not invest their subjects with the roundness of nature, and the illusive imitation of its shadows and tints, but because by tradition as well as by natural inclination they prefer a broad, simple, and flat treatment, which ena- the outlines of the folds of the drapery.

bles them, as it were to use art in a sense we are only just beginning to understand.

But want of symmetry is even more characteristic of Japanese art than want of shadow, which is common to all oriental work. It is this quality of irregularity which enables them to impress everything they see into its service. The ornamental art of the Italians and of all European nations is almost always symmetrical. If they want to introduce any natural representation or story into decorative work, it is enclosed in a frame or setting. Even Indian ornament is symmetrical and evenly balanced. The Japanese, on the contrary, delight in irregularity, and they cover everything they touch with ornamental pictures of every conceivable subject-flowers, birds, fishes, beasts, trees, landscapes, boats, women in gorgeous dresses, domestic scenes, and every incident of ordinary life. Their art is a series of surprises. Nothing is too quaint or too irregular for them. They care nothing about the sommetrical balance of graceful curves. In one corner of a plain and beautifully-smooth slab of Japan ware will be a bird, or a tree, or a square patch of orna-

As to some men all things are permitted with impunity, so to the Japanese, do what they may, success seems never to be denied. They put their spots of color or of ornament with unerring taste. Sometimes crowded with a profusion of incident and color, at another time simple and refined, their compositions are always arranged with a consummate feeling for the picturesque, their drawing is firm and broad, and their color at once simple and gorgeous. The illustrations to their books on natural history are far superior to anything we have. The fishes especially are rendered with a firmness of outline and a largeness of style that is unrivalled by our best draughtsmen, and nothing can exceed the splendor of their colored illustrations. Their bronzes are unrivalled for their technical excellence and their exquisite surface. Indeed, all that they do seems to be dictated by an unerring instinct for ornamentation.

By many of our artists the beauty of Japanese art is not fully appreciated, but the influence of its study may be detected in their work; but among the great majority of our painters, decorators, and designers, it is wholly unknown; and it is not our object to write a treatise on Japanese art (which would far exceed our limits) but to call their attention to a recent importation of Japanese fans, which are admirable specimens of the style and can now be obtained from Messrs. Farmer and Rogers, of Regent street, for sixpence each. No one interested in art should fail to spend a few shillings in their purchase. He would not only get very beautiful fans, but hints in color, composition, and technical processes, worth a great deal more than many treatises on those subjects.

The fans are of two shapes-one rather square, stumpy, and inelegant; the other more oval and pear-shaped. On the first there is invariably arrayed in the portrait of a lady, all the colors of the rainbow. The pattern and every minute detail of her dress are firmly and carefully drawn; but owing to the absence of shadow it is at first not easy to distinguish which are the patterns and which

The faces are all of precisely the same type, and are so much alike that a description of one will do for them all. The general contour of the face is a rounded oblong; the eyes are small and almond-shaped, and slope towards the nose, which is slightly aquiline. There is a considerable space between the eye and the eyebrow, which is placed rather high in the forehead. This space is invariably tinted a pale red, and is the only-part of the face, with the exception of the lips, that is colored.

The lips (of which the lower one is the most projecting) are slightly open, and show the teeth resting on the tip of the tongue. The hair is pulled back from the forehead, and is dressed in a large knob at the top rather than at the back of the head, and is secured by pins of such gigantic proportions that they look almost like beams. It is impossible to describe the intricacy and gorgeous color of these ladies' dresses. They are decorated with every conceivable pattern and subject; but notwithstanding the variety of their costume, and, in a less degree of their actionowing to the similarity (almost identity) of their faces, and their silly expression-they fail to interest us. They are simply vehicles for gorgeous color. It is in the backgrounds that, artistically as well as descriptively, the interest centres.

In one are dark purple mountains against a sky-clear, gradated, and with a touch of that limped quality which is so admirable in early Italian art. Indeed, in many respects these backgrounds recall the landscapes of the de votional school, and, though of course immeasurably inferior to them, the best Japanese examples are not without a resemblance, faint though it be, to the solemn landscapes of Giovanni Bellini.

In another is a broad river covered with boats, and spanned by a long bridge crowded with people, some bearing lanterns, for it is night. In another is a rosy sunset, distant dark mountains, and the sea dotted with islands, on which grow gaunt and straggling

In another the deep blue sky and the sombre hills are relieved by the brilliant bloom of almond trees. . In another the long unbroken roof of a factory, shut in by flowering trees, a river with boats, on its opposite bank a town, with its piers and wharves. The backgrounds of others are large flowers, or simply patterns. We have, however, enumerated enough to show their variety and inte-

There is an admirable harmony between the form and color of these fans; for while the square fans are decorated with a fulness and profusion of color, the prevailing tint of the more elegantly-shaped ones is a pale gradated blue or green, on which the figures tell out as brilliant spots of color; and as the form of these fans is lighter and the color more delicate, so is the treatment of the subjects on them more comical and amusing. The interest centres in the figures; there are no backgrounds like those previously described.

On one we see two women dressed in long crimson robes, one, pulling up a young tree by the roots, and tripped up by her dress, has fallen backwards. On another are two boys wrestling in a meadow, another boy acting as transparent color, beautiful in quality and of realizing this wish will, however, be illus-

splendid flowers of a water lily, a grotesque figure behind punting, a picnic party on the pleasant banks of a river, and gorgeously. dressed figures, some kneeling, some dancing, some flirting, form some of the varied subjects of these pictures. The reverse sides of these oval fans are similar to those of the square form, and though exceedingly simple the yare not devoid of interest. They consist generally of a spray of flowers, of birds on the wing or arranged ornamentally, and a great variety of objects, all drawn with facility and power. Occasionally we find a more important subject, as a waterfall, or rather a large river falling over the irregular edge of a vast amphitheatre, and forming a series of waterfalls, while in the foreground is a party of tourists. This landscape has all the appearance of having been drawn from nature, and if so there must be scenery in Japan well worth a visit.

The construction of the fans is worthy of notice. It is exceedingly simple and ingenious. About nine or ten inches of the plain stalk of a bamboo is split down to the joint into sixty or seventy segments, owing to the grain of the cane being perfectly straight, each of these filaments is of uniform thickness. They are then disposed so as to radiate from the joint, and are kept in their position by a strong packthread, which, interlacing them about two inches above the centre from which they spring, is fastened to the ends of a diminutive bow of bamboo. This passed through a hole in the knot, in precisely the same manner as the bow of a cross-bow is fixed into the stock, and is of sufficient strength to keep the packthread tight, and consequently to retain the ribs of the fan in a straight line. The plain bamboo below the joint forms the handle, which is six or seven inches long. The skeleton being thus constructed, the fan is finished by pasting paper over the back and front, cutting it to the proper form, and binding it with a hem, also of paper. Probably no other construction would so completely combine strength, lightness, and elasticity.

These fans are a great ornament to any room, and disposed in a circle in a hall or studio they form a most gorgeous mass of color, not only exceedingly beautiful, but highly suggestive. Their combinations of color are infinitely varied, while their decorative rendering of the ordinary incidents of life and facts of nature points to an almost entirely new field for our ornamental art. The value of Japanese work to artists and decorators can hardly be exaggerated, and we would only beg any sceptic on this point to place it by the side of any ordinary English or French art manufacture. If he does not admit its superiority, he must at least confess we may learn much by its study. It also has qualities not necessarily purely ornamental, which are well worthy of imitation. Their drawing is so broad and simple that from that cause alone it is almost poetical, and their color, if at times a little heavy and over-gorgeous, is often solemn, and never glaring or vulgar.

For wall-papers, illustrations to books, and many ornamental purposes, very valuable suggestions may be derived from a careful examination of the technical processes of the Japanese. The pictures on these fans are evidently printed from wood blocks, and are in umpire. Two figures in a boat picking the wonderfully even. It is easy enough to lay a trated in the following narrative:

flat tint in opaque color, and not so in a trans parent pigment. From a careful examination of the granulated quality of some of the tints, we are inclined to think that the surface of the wood blocks is in a line with the grain of the wood, and not across it, as with us. The gradated tints are carefully laid on the block with a brush, and wiped off in the manner so often adopted in the printing of French etchings. In some transparent strips for windowblinds which we have seen, the pattern on some of the draperies appears to be executed by simply wetting the block on which it is engraved, and applying it to the dry surface of a previously laid tint, and dragging the block with an even pressure about an eighth of an inch, thus leaving a pattern of peculiar delicacy and beauty, the upper edges being clear, light, and sharp, the lower, dark and gradated.

As our taste improves and our commerce with the Japanese extends, there is every chance of their art becoming every day better known and appreciated. But it is to be regretted that the almost inevitable result of a commercial demand for their work will be an immediate deterioration of its quality. The Japanese art at present bears about the same relation to the Chinese that gold does to brass. But it was not so always. Chinese art has been ruined by the demand for it. Those who care to see the utter degradation to which it has come have only to look at the glaring and trumpery fans that are sent over to supply the English market. Even their china is not only coarse, but is already in exceedingly bad taste, and, on the principle of " Corruptio optimi pessima," there is every prospect of its becoming offensively vulgar.

In comparing the respective merits of the best European examples with those of the Japanese, we must not forget that to most of us Japanese art is invested with the charm of novelty; and though the barbaric splendor and picturesque effect of a system which turns all visible nature to its use may for a time be very seductive, the learned grace and studied symmetry of well-designed European ornament will always assert its pre-eminence. It is more beautiful, more orderly, more chaste and refined in exactly the same degree as the European mind excels the Asiatic. should study, digest, and assimilate the excellencies of the one without being diverted from that other type which is doubtless most in harmony with our intellectual nature.

# A FATAL GIFT.

There are many wishes which we habitually conceive and express, without considering what the result would be were it possible to realise them, and what enormous conequences their realization would entail. For instance, we are apt to exclaim, when perplexed by the conduct of others, " I'd give anything to know So-and-So's thoughts!" A facility of this kind seems, at the first blush, to promise an easy solution of our difficulties. The effect I was sitting up late one Saturday night finishing my sermon for the following Sunday; and the completion of which, as was very frequently the case with my sermons, had been delayed to the last moment, owing to the pressure of other duties. This subject, which I had afterwards strange reasons for remembering, was FATE.

I had been endeavering to point out that what men find so difficult in a religious sense, really forms the foundation of secular life. Take, for instance, our investments of money, our whole system of commercial credit, nay, higher than that, our dearest domestic relations, our best social affections. "Why, without Faith," I had written, "the world would come to a dead-lock; there would be an end of concerted action; men would be perfectly isolated. Faith was the cohesive principles which bound together the human atoms." I little thought that that very night would afford me a terrible illustration of what I had written in the spirit of speculative contemplativeness.

Just as I had finished my discourse, I heard a low, single rap at the street-door. The servant had gone to bed, so I undid the bolts and looked out; and eventually looking down, I discovered a little scared girl not more than seven years old standing in the doorway.

"Please sir, Mr. C—— is very ill, and would like to see you."

Mr. C——!" the name was not familiar to me; but reflecting for a moment, I recollected meeting a gentleman of that name some years back. "What's the direction?" I asked.

"——, Adelphi Chambers," said the child.
"I'll be there directly," I replied (with a sigh, I confess), for the rain was coming down heavily, and I had had a hard day's parochial duty.

I pulled on my boats accordingly, and with coat and umbrella, sallied forth. I was admitted into the house by a decent looking woman, who, I presumed, was the keeper of the chambers. She led me up-stairs—cheerless chamber stairs; and I shuddered as she went before me with the feeble light.

"It is well for me to be here," I thought, "if I can in anywise comfort a poor creature dying without the support of home-care and affection."

I stopped the woman at the chamber-landing, and made her communicate to me some particulars of the case. The malady, it appeared, had quite puzzled the doctors; the woman herself thought Mr. C—— was troubled by something on his mind.

"He has lived here, sir," said she, "for about six months; a nice quiet gentleman, and no trouble: but from the first there was something strange in his manner. He always seemed to want to be to hisself; me or my husband being in the room seemed to irritate him; and he never liked to be waited upon by anybody but our little girl. Since his illness he has had a screen drawn close round his bed, and he don't like anybody to see him: not even the doctor."

As I entered the room, where a shaded candle was dimly burning, in one corner I perceived a small camp bed, almost concealed by by a curtained screen. The woman mentioned my name, and withdrew. Then a voice, feeble but perfectly articulate, addressed me from behind the curtain.

I am deeply our debtor for coming to see

me at such a time." I expressed my hope that I might be of comfort to him. "Will you be good enough," he continued, "to take a seat near my bed, without disturbing the curtains; the request is strange, but I will explain it by-and-by."

I did as he desired.

"Perhaps," said he, "you have not forgotten my name: we met casually some years ago. I have forgotten my name: we met casually some years ago. I have not forgotten you! Your manner and appearance made a very deep impression on me; and when I chanced to hear that you were living in this district, I could not resist sending for you, in a sort of vain hope that you might afford me some alleviation"

I signified to him that my mission was rather to deal with spiritual affliction.

"Ay," said he, "there's the source of the malady. I fear cure is beyond your power; but this night I am impelled by a strong desire to speak out the terrible secret which is consuming me. The last time we met, was if you recollect, at R-'s rooms; and the conversation even there turned on mesmerism. I was an enthusiastic mesmerist; I mesmerized some of the party, and you were much interested in the experiments. I remember your saying that this new discovery, whereby the troubled spirit might be wrapped in calm and released from pain, was a precious gift, but manifestly very liable to abuse, and should therefore be religiously exercised for the benefit of mankind, and not for the purposes of vain curiosity. I treated your words lightly at the time, but I have often thought of them since. I have learnt, in a terrible manner, that they were signally true.

"I was a most skillful mesmerist—in other words, by intense strength of will I could subdue the submitted volition of other people. The longer I exercised this gift, the stronger my power grew; at last I no longer required perfect submission from those on whom I operated. I could encounter mental opposition, and overcome it.

"You must bear patientlently with me if I am somewhat exact and minute in describing this psychological process. At first I could only deal with a mind which thought of nothing but me; then I acquired the power of driving away extraneous thought from the mind of the patient, and substituting the thought of Me exclusively.

"When I first acquired the latter power I could merely detect a mental opposition, which seemed like a painful depression cast on my own mind; but gradually, as my power grew, I could distinguish the opposing thought thrown like a reflection in a mirror on my own mind. Sometimes the thought was fear—sometimes a proud desire not to be overcome. As I was very careful to verify the truth of my discernment, I made my patients, after the trance was over, call to mind, as far as possible, their last thought before unconsciousness began; and invariably the thought which had existed in the mind of the patient had coexisted in my own mind.

"Would to God I had been contented thus far! It was in my power to benefit others largely by affording them freedom from pain, but the desire of being able to read the thoughts of men absorbed me. The slight progress I had made seemed but the germ of

a mighty power of which the world had no conception.

"To be master of the motives of men's actions, to watch the gradual development of thought into action—above all, to be able to unmask false profession by a knowledge of the actual feeling—this was a gift o nferring power incalculable.

"And out of much meditation upon this idea there grew a colossal fascination which grasped my whole soul.

"Alas! there is always more or less of isolation in the intensity of a great thought; when deeply seated, it dries up our sympathies and feeds upon the social inclinations of the heart.

"You know how the alchemists of the middle ages labored in the hope of discovering the golden secret of the physical world; how they spent time, and thought, and substance in the work. You have read, perhaps, Béalzac's 'Rcherche de l'Absolu?' I was striving for the golden secret of the mental world; no trouble was too great, no labor too hard for me; and as it was well known in the profession that I possessed the power of lulling pain, doctors would send for me at all times day and night, to ease the anguish of patients whose maladies defied opium itself. I used to answer their call with the greatest readiness, for se. vere pain, by distracting the mind of the sufferrer, increased the difficulty I had in subduing that mind to my own, and my power always grew stronger after opposition.

"For a long period I did not progress beyond the ability to feel with the greatest clearness the thoughts in my patients' minds prior to their lapsing into the trance. I attained my higher power suddenly. One day I had succeeded in alleviating a case of severe pain. The sufferer was the son of a very old man, and the father thanked me with tears in his eyes, grasping my hands.

"'The doctor told me," said he, "that if we could subdue the pain he might live a few days yet—my other boy may reach home in time to see him."

"Instantly I recognized a strange thought in my mind, and I looked sternly in the old man's face.

"You hope your other son will return in

"'Ay, that I do,' replied the old man, somewhat flurried with my glance, 'they are so fond of one another.'

"I hurried from the house, jumped into a cab and drove to the ———— Insurance Office. It happened that I was acquainted with one of the clerks. I inquired whether So-and-So, mentioning the dying man's name, was insured there.

"'He is,' replied my friend, 'and if he lives another two days a handsome bonus will be added to his policy.'

"The clerk's words sufficed to tell me that I possessed my long-sought power. While the old man was lavishing his thanks upon me in the sick room, I had felt his thought, 'that if his son lived two days longer, the policy would possess additional value.'"

"Surely, sir," said I, interrupting his narrative, "this was merely some casual coincidence of thought."

"Coincidence, indeed," replied the voice, mournfully, "but constant, not casual.

"From that day was given me the gift of

reading human thought; a few, only very few, minds were sealed from my introspection. At this period the conditions and limitations of my power appeared to be these. I had to hold the person's eyes steadily on mine, my mind required to be as much as possible in a passive state, vacant of thought, for positive thought dimmed, or quite effaced, the thought reflected from the other mind.

"Ah! I tremble now when I think of it, the towering pride and exultation which beset me as I left that assurance office; as I strode along the busy city streets, men seemed dwarfs, pigmies, in comparison with my power. I laughed as I thought of their comparative impotence. I was strangely moved, too full of strong feeling to exercise my power again that day; but when I got home I shut myself up in my room, and let exultation have full sway; and a great tide of thought at the wondrous consequences of my gift flowed through my excited mind."

I interrupted him at this point, and strongty insisted that this could only be some strange hallucination which ought to be fought against, prayed against, and-resolutely conquered.

"Ay, ay!" was the reply; "I have hugged that idea, clung to it, prayed, fervently prayed, that it might be after all some vain delusion. No, no, that hope's passed, but you must hear my case out before you can suggest any remedy.

"Alas!" he continued, "my power has been verified hundreds of times. I have never been in error."

"I recollect even on that first day of exultation, after the first fervid burst was over I trembled at my vast power. Even then a sense of desolation, of utter isolation, overcame me. I had broken through the mental limits of mankind. I must traverse this new realm of knowledge without help-without sympathy; friendship could give me no comfort-wisdom no advice. I was sole tenant of a new world, without chart, without rule, without serviceable law. I stood alone, with my wretched feeble reason to uphold me. And yet at first glance conduct would seem very easy; thought is the parent of action: if we are cognizant of thought we can predict action. Not so! Thank God-not so. I have seen men, good men in the world's estimation, yet the thoughts of their hearts, the promptings of passion, have been vile; but the world was right, those very men have after all acted well. I have seen the temptation to evil, and the strong habit of right, almost unthought, which in a moment thrust back evil and forced to virtuous action. Ah! I have seen noble thoughts, piety, grand aspirations. I could have humbled myself and knelt before some men, and yet all this greatness has been lost in mean and selfish acts.

"Alas! I only beheld the thoughts of men, to become mystified by their subsequent actions. I trusted where I was deceived; I doubted where I might have trusted; mankind perpetually falsified my predictions. What wonder? I had only my poor trivial unaided reason to guide me amid the infinite complexities of the soul. The consequent labor of attempted analysis has worn my mind and body. In the personal intercourse of life I dare not trust: I may not doubt. Oh! I have prayed for faith—prayed that my awful vision might be mercifully darkened, that I

might be led back to that open judgmentground of mortals,—positive acts.

At this point Mr. C-seemed somewhat exhausted and asked me to give him the lemonade. I was very much moved by his strange confession—the gloom of the room, the dead silence of the large house, broken only by the voice of the hidden speaker, feeble at times, then suddenly breaking out in painful energy—the thin, worn hand stretched through the curtain to grasp the glass. I felt that this extraordinary delusion, evidently deep seated, was not to be uprooted by mere emphatic contradiction or ridicule. I hoped by inducing him to relate some of the experiences upon which he had built his terrible conclusion, I might convince him of some fallacy, of some erroneous assumptions in his train of argument.

"I think," said I, addressing him, "I understood you to say that you have never revealed this faculty of yours to any one?"

"What!" he exclaimed vehemently, "and let men know my power, so that they should cast me forth as an unhallowed spy—all shrinking from me, as some involuntarily shrunk from Dante, declaring he had walked in hell—no! I was isolated enough without that."

"Still," said I, "you were certainly wrong, because another, free from that morbid feeling which exists in your mind, might have been able to show you that this coincidence of thought, upon which you base your supposed power, was merely the natural effect of common circumstances upon two minds. Relate to me one of your strongest instances."

He assented to my proposal.

"I had an old uncle," said he, "who was very well off. I was his favorite nephew, the son of a sister who had been very dear to him. He was a kind, good old man, somewhat sensitive in matters of courtesy and attention When I grew so entirely absorbed in my great idea, I gave up all social intercourse, and entirely neglected my uncle, as well as the rest of my friends. People used to tell me that a young cousin of mine, home from his first voyage, was staying at my uncle's house; that I risked my chance of after-fortune by my imprudent conduct. I paid attention to none of these warnings, and one night I was sent for in a great hurry; my uncle had had a sudden fit, and was fast sinking. I hastened to the house; on entering the room I found my uncle was in a heavy dose of unconsciousness, but on my approaching the bed, he feebly opened his eyes and gazed vacantly on me without the slightest sign of recognition.

"'He does not know you,' said my cousin.
"But he did know me! the body was fast sinking, yet the mind was still active. I felt, as I looked deeply in his eyes, his thought of returning tenderness—Janet's only son—and then the terrible regret that that was not signed. In my desperation I seized pen and paper—I thrust the pen into his hand, and clasped the yielding fingers on it.

"'It is too late!" said my cousin,

"'No, no!' I replied.

"It was too late. The pen fell away from the nerveless hand, but I felt the intense inward struggle which strove in vain to reanimate the failing strength of the dying man."

"Allow me to observe," said I, "that I cannot consider this as any proof of your power | tongue spoke it—the human voice was never

—you knew that your uncle's affections were cooled towards you, that your cousin would in all probability be his heir—all the rest was merely the effect of excited imagination."

"You are too hasty, sir," was the reply to my objection. "We found, on searching my uncle's papers, a will in his desk, making my cousin his heir, to my entire exclusion, but so convinced was I of the truth of what I had felt pass in my uncle's mind, that I made junabated search through all the papers, even waste papers-and in the waste-paper basket, thrown in by the servant who cleared the room, I took up a common circular which, from its date, my uncle must have received the very morning of his seizure, and turning over to the blank sheet, I discovered in his handwriting the draft of a codicil which would have made me joint-heir with my cousin; but it was nothing more than a draft.

"Again, sir! I knew my cousin was a young man of generous feeling-I say I knew this, because when we discovered the will, I saw his inward feeling of surprise, his regret that I had been entirely excluded, and his fear lest I should think he had been undermining my credit with my uncle. Surely, I thought, he will be affected now by this evidence of my uncle's feeling, and will to some extent act upon it. I gave him the memorandum to read. I watched him very intently. After reading he was silent awhile, and then I saw to my astonishment great exultation in his mind that the document was legally invalid Hard words were rising to my lips-thank God! I spoke them not; with utterance sudden as thought he swore to act upon the codicil. I grasped his hands, expressing my deep sense of his noble conduct. 'Tell me, Harry," said I, at length, 'did not you at first feel glad that the codicil was not signed?

"'How the deuce did you guess that? he replied; 'I did feel glad for a moment!—but I kicked that thought to the devil!"

It was clearly hopeless to try to satisfy Mr. C— of the fallacy of his idea through his own narratives. He had evidently squared all his proofs with such strange ingenuity. I trusted, therefore, that something might occur under my own cognizance which would enable me by the impartial use of fact to satisfy him of his error.

"What was wealth to me?" he continued— "my terrible power was growing, I no longer required contact of vision; merely personal presence unobstructed within a certain distance sufficed. To possess any peace of mind in the presence of others, I am forced to conceal myself, to veil in my vision. I told you there were some few who were sealed from my power; these were the friends I loved best-I know not why, or how-perhaps from that strong element of faith which is contained in true love. Alas! one by one, my power gradually prevailed over these. I was forced to leave them; the world thought me fickle and inconstant: I could not help that; it was so utterly wearisome to bear in one's bosom the thoughts of others—so dreadful to behold continually the anatomy of the soul, to be perpetually reasoning out men's acts from their thoughts. You know how pleasant are the words of friendly intercourse, how refreshing is the sound of friendly talk, but here was the climax of my misery—I felt the idea before the

fresh to me, it was always talling an old tale, falling flat and stokening on the ear.

"At last there was only one being over whose mind I was powerless oh! how desperate I clung to her-how earnestly I prayed of her to accept me. It was ecstatic, that doubt of mine, while I waited for her reply; that thrill of uncertainty, as I gazed into her dark eyes, and rejoiced in their glorious mystery-and then her sweet voice falling fresh, oh! so fresh upon my ears-her words, sweeter to me than softest music, springing from an unfathomed heart, and assuring me, with sincere emotion, that that heart was mine. I loved her with all the happiness of faith! I have no words to describe the intensity of my feeling. Do you recollect that German ballad-

> "I knew but beaven in Wilhelm's kiss, And all is hell without it. ?"

"That was my love for her! ay, and intensified far beyond the poet's meaning-it was the last bond that held me to the common joys of mankind. They might well say I worshipped her-I could sit for hours gazing silently on the play of her eyes, listening to the slightest things she uttered. I can never make you understand what her voice was to me-her voice, the only voice in the world I could bear to hear. I used to tremble at the thought of losing her. Not by death-for she had all the chances of youth and strength, but from my terrible power. I reasoned thus: love for a while had saved me some friends; but I loved this girl far beyond friendship, and love would be her shield. Again, I had observed that the smallest feeling of doubt towards any friend had been the commencement of my fatal vision—but doubt towards her was impossible, for I loved her with the strongest

"Nevertheless I was to be isolated from all the world-doubt did come one day. Clara had a cousin, a wild young fellow, who had been shipped by his family to Australia for the double purpose of reformation and fortune. It seems he had been always fond of her, but her friends would never listen to his proposals. Some time after our engagement he returned to England, having made a good round sum in the gold scramble. I met him at a party to which I had accompanied Clara and her mother. I saw on our introduction that he had an aversion to me, and independently of this I was nat prepossessed by his manner and appearance. I told Clary my feeling, and she defended him, as I thought, rather too warmly.

"In the course of the evening, while I was talking to Clara, he came and stood near us; our conversation, which had been in reference to him, was silenced by the singing. I knew not what induced me to direct my attention towards him-he was gazing earnestly on Clara; I felt the violent love which was raging in his bosom, and the wild lawless inclination to make her his. Involuntarily I turned to Clara. Cursed doubt was in my mind arising out of our previous conversation. In an instant I beheld her thought-tenderness and love toward her cousin!

"And then by a new access of my power the thoughts of both those minds were mirrored in mine-oh it cuts very sharp to know a rival's love, but think of the bewildering torture of feeling that rival's love, and the love | curtain had been drawn back. Miss M-

felt towards him at work in your own breast!

"In my pain and anger I was advancing towards this man. Then flashed on my mind with a force before which the previous feeling with all its intensity shrivelled away, the terrible fact that my last hope was gone. I had read her mind-I must be alone henceforth."

The voice gradually dropped into indistinctness-I listened, there was a dead silence, I drew back the curtain-he had fainted-poor C-! how sadly altered from the young man I recollected but a few short years back. The light fell horizontally on his pale face, on the ridges revealed and the hollows in dark shade worn by the fever-his fatal imagination, . . .

C-permitted me to state his real condition to the doctor. This gentleman was a very clever, clear-headed, and benevolent man, and took immense interest in the case. Both of us reasoned with C-- upon his hallucination. I strove on religious grounds to show him the improbability of such a condition being divinely permitted. We both of us blamed him for having doubted on such frivolous grounds his betrothed's love and fidelity.

He told us it was this last struggle which had so completely worn away his health. This love for her cousin, as far as he had seen, was only a passing thought; but alas ! his joy in her was at an end; her voice had lost its sweetness, her eyes the mysterious delighthe dared not bind himself to a life of perpetual attraction and repulsion, beholding all the fluctuations of her thoughts, yet never knowing her true feelings. Love was impossible without faith.

He had broken off the match, offering what compensation money could afford-this had been proudly refused, but he had made his will in her favor.

We urged upon him that he ought at the least to take the lady's word whether or not the thought he had mentioned had ever existed in her mind. With some difficulty, upon giving our pledge to act with fairness in the matter, we induced him to agree to this propo-

We had every hope that her disavowal would afford us a lever to uproot his strange convictions.

At C-'s desire I called upon Miss M-I saw her and her mother. She, poor girl, evidently loved C-still, and was much distressed to hear of his dangerous condition. It appeared that he had excused himself for breaking off the match, on the ground of some hereditary malady, and he had blamed himelf in strong terms for ever making her and offer. From what Mrs. M-said, she seemed to regard C-with pity rather than with resentment, notwithstanding the sad trial it had been to her daughter. I stated the object of my visit; that it would afford much consolation to C--, if Miss M- would visit him, and answer a certain doubt which existed in his mind; it was right for me to state that the question which would be asked was of a painful nature, but I was quite convinced that one true word from Miss Mwould explain the whole matter at once. Miss M-and her mother readily agreed to my

It was a very painful meeting. The

her mother, and the doctor stood at the end of the bed; I was at C--s side, and as he was very weak he requested me to speak. After recalling to Miss-'s recollection the events of the particular evening (it was less than a year from that day) and stating that C\_\_\_ made no question of the sincerity of her love (he also speaking to the same effect himself), I asked her whether she could remember at the particular moment just before Cfainted in the room, experiencing a feeling of regard towards her cousin?

C--, in breathless suspense, bent forward in his bed, and regarded her intently. She, poor girl, was deeply moved, blushing crimson. Her mother interposed with warmth, and denied my right to ask such a question. I expostulated, and prayed of her to allow her daughter to answer.

The doctor suddenly moved forward: Chad fallen back insensible! And then Miss M-, hurrying to the bedside, and kneeling as she clasped C--'s hand, confessed that the thought had passed through her mind-"a morbid folly," she cried, "the recollection of childish days, of what people had said, as boy and girl, of their marrying;" she had never approved of her cousin's conduct since he had grown up-she had refused his hand but a month ago.

From this time C- gradually sank,-ONCE A WEEK.

#### THE POWER OF MUSIC.

THE MAN OF BUSINESS, RETURNING TO HIS MANSION, FINDETH HIS WIFE AT THE GRAND PIANO-FORTE.

Sing to me, love, I need thy song, I need that thou should'st cheer me well, For everything is going wrong, And life appears an awful sell. I've overdrawn my banker's book, I'm teased for loans by brother John; Last night our clerk eloped, and took Two thousand pounds-sing on-sing on.

My partner proves a man of straw, And straw, alas! I dare not thrash; My mortgagee has gone to law, And swears he'll have his pound of flesh. My nephew's nose has just been split In some mad student fight at Bohn; My tailor serves me with a writ For three years' bills-sing on-sing on.

My doctor says I must not think, But go and spend a month at Ems; My coachman, overcome by drink, Near Barnes upset me in the Thames. My finest horse is ruined quite, And hath no leg to stand upon; The other's knees are such a sight, He'll never sell-sing on-sing on.

My love, no tears? I'll touch thee now: Thy parrot in our pond is drowned; Thy lap-dog met a furious cow, Whose horn hath saved thee many a pound; Thy son from Cambridge must retire For tying crackers to a don; Thy country-house last night took fire-It's down, sweet love-sing on-sing on. [Punch.

-Maximilian, of Mexico, has written to Paris, requesting that the statues of the Theatre Français may be forwarded to him, with a view to applying them to a theatre in his capital: they will probably come too late. So Max. had better go on with his great farce.

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#### NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1866.

The London ATHENAUM recently announced that the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin had declined to receive an ancient gold cup, bequeathed to them by Smith O'Brien, on the ground that they had no place in which a gift so valuable could be securely kept. We recommend that it be sent over to the Fenian palace in Union Square where all valuables are sure to be taken good care of.

The well-known poet and humorist "Wild Egerton," of Chicago, has prepared a lecture on New York and its characteristics which he has been invited to deliver in most of the leading towns in the West. He has spent several months here collecting together material, and we have no doubt that he will give a most pleasing and picturesque performance.

A friend writes us to ask in what old ballad is to be found the line

Douglass, Douglass, tendir and treu.

Will some of our learned readers send us word?

A rubicund old gentleman in Wall street was pointed out to us yesterday as having been a Collector of the Port of New York for over fifty years. He looked so, and the Port seemed to agree with him.

Mr. Henry Morford delivers his third discourse on European matters this evening, at Dodworth Hall. Those who have sat under him, hitherto, speak of the experience with feeling.

People who continue to subscribe to Mutual Coal Companies (with one or two exceptions)

The mammoth Nation is in want of "light articles :"

AndlAjax asked for light-he asked no more.

Fernando Wood is said to have offered his "good offices" to a branch of the Fenians: rent not stated.

A correspondent writes to inquire if we do not think the Fenians should be recognized everywhere as belligerents. We certainly do.

An Exchange says:-You never should place so much confidence in your minister as to sleep during the sermon.

## . DRAMATIC FEUILLETON.

BY FIGARO.

I have a pile of about ten cords of announcements to attend to this week, Mr. Editor: yes, and a Cordova—which is pretty rough.

But let the Cordova go.

In fact, I wish now that I had owned up to the "rum and recklessness" alluded to last week, and " stayed dead."

This would have been rather cruel on "C. B. S.," to be sure; but in times like these, when everything but under-clothing is beneath notice and the thermometer is below contempt, every man must take care of himself.

That is, if he can.

I have had no time to take care of my-self this week, having been occupied all the time taking care of my stove, and trying, out of sheer compassion, to keep it warm.

And, by the way, if you want to hear a good story about the said stove-and where it came from—and who made it—go to Pfaff's some night when Edgardus is there, and he will give it you before you have time to ask

I tell you what, Sir, it's a grate story; and, coming from Ed., you may be sure it loses nothing in the telling.

I think he likes to repeat it in revenge for my having stated, a week or two ago, that he was joint-author with De Walden of the sensation play to be brought out, on Monday, at Wood s new theatre; which he says is a worse joke than the "rum and reckless" one that De Walden (or whoever) undertook to fasten upon me.

And this reminds me to say that the play in question is an adaptation of a French piece, and that De Walden has taken such liberties with it that nearly all the characters, all the dialogue, all the situations, and all the scenery -are new

In a word, not a tittle of the original is left; no, not even the title-De Walden's being "The Balloon Wedding," for the reason, probably, that there is to be no balloon in the piece, and as much as ever a wedding.

However, there will be Frank Chanfrau (ye 1 bet you); and there will be the Hanlon Brothers; and there will be Sylvestre's "Enchanted Fountain;" and there will be an "Arion Masked Ball" (minus the Arions); and, unless the author fails of his usual mark, there will not be any dullness in the play.

The scenery will of course be good, as otherwise (and here comes a subtle witticism) it would go against the Grain of the establishment-or shall I be wittier still, and say the Grain of the Wood?

And apropos, why didn't Wood call his new theatre the St. Nicholas Theatre?

It is exactly opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel, and the name, besides being a right jolly one, would serve to indicate the locality of the

Adopt it now, Mr. Wood; it is never too late to mend.

So it isn't, Mr. Editor, and that suggests to

that Charles Reade's great play of "Never too Late to Mend" is in active preparation at Wallack's, and that as soon as "Henry Dunbar" (brought out last Wednesday) has finished its off-and-on career there, you may look out for it, in nearly all the splendor of its original mounting, and with a cast which it would be well worth the author's while to come over and see—as it is not impossible, if the piece runs long enough, that he will do.

Meantime, don't forget." H. Dunbar," of whom (or which) more presently.

Also, before Wallack is out of mind, note that next Wednesday afternoon he gives up his theatre to Wehli, the great pianist, who, assisted by Mdme. Fleury Urban and Mr. S. C. Campbell, will tickle your musical palate with a first-rate Chickering salad.

And, speaking of musical palates, how I envied you fellows who had a chance two or three times this last week to go to the Bateman Concerts and hear Md'lle. Parepa again!

I don't know that I have mentioned it, but I was at home trying to keep that stove warm.

"Old King Coal is a jolly old soul," but I assure you he gives me a great deal of trouble.

Well, when since the days of Jenny Lind have you heard such a voice as Parepa's?

A musical young friend to whom I generously gave my tickets (not being able to use them) has been raving about it ever since, and trying to reproduce its superb notes on the violin: Levy (another of the Bateman troupe) might as well try to reproduce them on that cornet-à-piston of his.

But you have heard Parepa, so whatever might say about her would sound tame.

I notice, by the way, that Bennett threw a handful of dirt at her the other day; but I notice, also, that it fell so far short as to besmear only his own face, which is already coated by such operations.

His next subject will probably be Miss Bateman. Since his fiendish treatment of Booth—a repetition of which, as I said last week, would have caused the grave-diggers at the corner of Broadway and Ann street to hurry up their work—he has found it best to turn his attention to women, no one of whom, unless she "advertises in the HEBALD," or unless the public, meanwhile, take the matter in hand (as they have begun to), will be safe for an instant from his attacks.

On second thought, I think he will let Miss Bateman alone.

The welcome which will be given to her at Niblo's after her long absence in England, will be such as can hardly fail to have its warning effect even upon a Bennett.

But hold; I must beg pardon of the lady for having spoken her name in any such dishonoring association.

Suffice it that she is back with us againcrowned with honors-rejoicing still in the freshness of youth and beauty-elated at the prospect of fresh triumphs—and certain that, both as a lady and as an artist, she occupies a place in the affections of our people second to that of no member of her profession.

It will not, therefore, be so much a desire to see Miss Bateman again in her great character of Leah, that will crowd Wheatley's immense theatre next Monday, as a desire to hail the return to our shores of an amiable me to call your attention, again, to the fact and accomplished young actress, who, having

done have to me attitude or accurate head to receive the energial little of her friends, will remove her fall to the report.

I know not how others feel about it, Mr. Editor, but to me these demountrations of the public for publics are not suggrateful whether re-publics are or not) toward their theatries! favorites as in the case of Miss Bateman and Mr. Booth—are really touching.

They show that there is, after all, something much better and higher among us than the spirit of traffic; while they also show that the horrible spirit of bigotry which would make all plays contraband, and reduce all players to the condition of outcasts, has, with other Puritan fanaticisms, about passed away.

You could hardly have oredited such a thing a few years ago, but among the crowds who are flocking nightly to the Winter Garden to see Mr. Booth and admire his masterly impersonation of Hamlet, not a few occupy distinguished positions, clerical as well as lay, in the church.

So you see the world moves—and moves in the right direction.

Dr. Bellows has now no more occasion to defend the stage than Solon Shingle has to defend the pulpit.

Apropos, have you seen Solon since he got back from London?

I baven't, on account of - that stove but I heard a wag say of him, last night, that he didn't know whether one swallow made a summer or not, but he had been to the Broadway Theatre three or four times this week and could swear that one Shingle made s

But seriously, I ought to have seen Solon Shingle this week, if only to give an opinion (which would have settled the matter) as to the new version of his play, which is attributed to Solon himself, and is said to be as good as if it were done by Tayleure, who is Solon's other self.

However, there is plenty of time, as the piece will run, from present appearances, till Spring-tide.

One reason why I want to see it-independent of Solon—is to make it the text for a discourse on plays in general, and, especially on "sensation plays," to which I have become almost a convert.

Does this astonish you?

Well, then, if you want to know, classical plays (as commonly understood) seem to me about played out.

The same with classical players.

The whole business may be summed up in the one word (thanks to Dickens for it) "Turveydrop "---or, if you prefer, "Podsnap," either of which, being interpreted, means "Deportment".

I went the other night, as I told you I should, to see Lucille Western in "East Lynnalls cande to be her or plat a continue of

Now, Miss Western has never been a favorite of whe nor has "East Lynne"-but in common with the vast audience, I impect, as the play went on, moved own town, here could I belp feeling that here remarking (call it art, artifice, smeationwhat you will) that appeals directly to

and one the play yourself to sight its your last openion and then tell he to not right, and if there is not something

The your notices of now the order, even at Wallack a swimens. Tom Taylor's "Henry Dunbar, or the Outst," just put on the boards there, and which will hardly be put aside even by "The Rivals," which is to be played at the same house, for

the first time, on Monday.

I have no room to give the plot of the piece but it is all along of a man who kills another man-and then takes the other man's name then gets confounded by his own daughter with the other man whom she supposes is the murderer of the first man (to wit, her father) and then gets pursued by the said daughter, who at lasts finds him, and, discovering that he is her father, becomes very miserable and determines to rescue him from the police, which first she does and then she doesn't, in consequence of which the first man-not the other man-immediately dies, and the piece comes to a mournful but, on the whole, satisfactory conclusion: all which, with love scenes interspersed, and a first-rate comic villain to light up the piece now and then, makes what I call a first-rate sensation play.

And you should see Wallack's company play it.

Miss Heuriques, as the daughter, gives us as finished a piece of comedy acting as I have seen this season; while Mr. J. W. Wallack as the wicked father (Henry Dunbar), Miss Gannon as the inevitable servant-girl, Mr. Charles Fisher as the comic villain, Mr. Young as a detective, and Mr. George Holland as a head-waiter, present a series of stage portraits such as it is difficult to forget.

I see that the critic of the TRIBUNG, with all his admiration of the acting, won't have the

piece on any terms.

"That such a piece should be produced at the first theatre in the United States," he says, " is but another proof of the prevalence of the conviction that public taste prefers lurid sensation rather than the marble purity of classic art, or even the luxuriant embroidery of elegant artifice."

I rather think, William, that that is so; and that the " marble purity of classic art," and "even the luxuriant embroidery of elegant artifice" (whatever that is) are at present a little out of date.

Now please don't any body call me a " pervert" after the above heresies, else I'll go to Barnum's next week and report the "Eastern Extravagants of the Illustrious Stranger, or Married and Buried," which I see is up for Monday, and which is a sensation play pur

Meanwhile, all I promise myself in the classical way, for the present, is the Philharmonic Rehearsal at the Academy this afternoon with "Mosart's Symphony No. 1 in D," etc., and Theodore Thomas's Symphony concert this evening at leving Hall when, in addition to a superb instrumental treat, we shall have anlast) opportunity of bearing the

Derive Property of the series of the It can run by the State of the St and North in their A reported the least and

ay (Monte Gris

As for Miss Residents Theatre, so lately a Church, I fear is a being measurement into a Synagogus—which is out of my line.

But now, Mr. Editor, comes what to me is the great sensation of the week, to wit the end of my Feulitaion and another occasion to ussure you how truly I am

Yours and several other people's Law Dug Sawent

P. S.—Please note that this afternoon at half past one we are to have at the Broadway Theatre the first of a new series of "Solon Shingle Matinees."

The most entertaining Ladies' Newspaper ever issued in this country in The Bounds, published by Mr. John Swinton.

A benefit wa given at the Mobile Theatre, on the night of the 28d, for the benefit of Mrs. Stonewall "Jackson.

Two hundred and seventy-five cases of divorce have been granted in Chicago the past year; the devotion to the union is very weak there.

Some commotion was created lately in the Mobile Theatre by several persons hissing the air of "Yankee Doodle" while the soldiers were applauding it; but no serious disturbance occurred.

#### OPINIONS OF THE PRESS:

From the New York Herald, October Eld.
The SATTERAY Places to a collection of constitution places of the state of constitution of the state of the s

From the New York Dudy Times.

The Sarvanar Pause is the ablest of the literary weeklies, and almost the only one which presents any very anlient pseuliarities of character and tone.

Prom the Year Fork Sunday Courier.

The Sartunday Prime contains wit enough, and good reiting enough to citable it to a heavily support from all the altivated and right-chiaking classes.

Promise N T. Sunday Place.

It is edited with much sprightliness and ability. Its drawnatio foullisten is particularly lively. Altogether, we hold be flavoural Promi and its questioner or a real addition to the best newspaper literature of fire day.

Prom the New York Disputal.

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From the N. Y. Spirit of the Theory of the Land

Prop Dulghe's Journal of Back.

# HERMONE, OR DIFFERENCES ADJUSTED.

втаривторования.

ever I wander, up and about,

Wherever I wander, up and about,
This is the puszle I can't make out
Because I care little for books; no doubt:

I have a Wife, and she is wise, Deep in philosophy, strong in Greek; Spectacles shadew her petty eyes, Octeries rustle to hear her speak; She writes a little-for love, not fame; Has publish'd a book with a dreary name; And yet (God bless her !) is mild and meek, And how I happened to woo and wed A wife so pretty and wise withal Is part of the pussle that fills my head-Plagues me at daytime, racks me in bed, Haunts me, and makes me appear so small. The only answer that I can see Is-I could not have married Hermione (That is her fine wise name), but she Stoop'd in her wisdem and married ME.

For I am a fellow of no degree, Given to romping and jollity; The Latin they thrash'd into me at school The world and its fights have thrash'd away. At figures alone I am no fool, And in City circles I may say. But I am a dunce at twenty-nine, And the kind of study that I think fine Is a chapter of Dickens, a sheet of the Tixes, When I lounge, after work, in my easy chair; PUNCE for humor, and Praed for rhymes, And the butterfly wors blown here and there By the idle breath of the social air. A little French is my only gift, Wherewith at times I can make a shift Guessing at meanings, to flutter over A filagree tale in a paper cover.

Hermione, my Hermione!
What could your wisdom perceive in me
And, Hermione, my Hermione!
How does it happen at all that we
Love one another so utterly?

Well, I have a bright-eyed boy or two,

A darling who cries with lung and tongue about
As fine a fellow, I swear to you,
As ever poet of sentiment sung about!
And my lady-wife with the serious eyes
Brightens and lightens when he is nigh,
And looks, although she is deep and wise,
As foolish and happy as he or I!
And I have the courage just then, you see,
To kiss the lips of Hermione—
Those learned lips that the learned praise—
And to clasp her close as in sillier days:
To talk and joke in a frolic vein,

To tell her my stories of things and men;
And it never strikes me that I'm profane,
For she laughs, and blushes, and kisses again,
And, ranser I fly goes her wisdom thes!
For Boy claps hands, and is up on her breast,
Rosring to see her so bright with mirth,
And I know she deems me (O the jest!)
The claverest fellow on all the earth!

And Hermione, my Hermione,
Nurses her bey and defers to me;
Does not seem to see L'en smell—
Even to think me a dunce at all!
And wherever I wander, up and about,
Here is the pussle I can't make out—
That Hermione, my Hermione,
In spite of her Greek and philosophy,
When sporting at night with her boy and me,
Seems awayees and wiser, I assever—
Sweeters and wiser, and far more elever,
And makes me feel more foolish than ever,
Through her childish, girlish, joyons grace,
And the silly pride in her learned face !

That is the pussle I can't make out.

Because I care little for books, ne deubt;

For, whenever I think of it, sight or more.
I thank my God she is wise, and I

The happiest fool that was ever born !

(For the Saturday Press.)

LIFE IN A BAR-ROOM.

PRON OUR BAR-ROOM CORRESPONDENT.

MR. EDITOR:

Human nature, as viewed in a bar-room, is very different to human nature anywhere else; therefore, as your special correspondent; I will, with your permission, occupy a little of your space with a slight aketch of what life in a bar-room is.

We there find every variety of character and temperament, and every shade of social condition.

There is the spendthrift and the pauper, the mechanic, the laborer, and the loafer.

The bar-room affords a complete and not uninteresting study for the student of human character.

Let us give a sketch of a New York barroom which we visited only a night or two ago.

It is eight o'clock on a cold frosty evening, when friend meeting friend, they are very apt to invite one another to "smile."

There they are, standing at yonder bar, behind which stands the busy tender, with whom they seem familiar.

From their appearance and general conversation, it is evident they are clerks; for an attentive listener may occasionally catch the words, "dollars," "increase," "salary," "boss," etc.

They sip their hot toddy, and the conversation turns apon some "dear Julia" or "lovely Mary Ann," who would hardly be flattered, we imagine, at hearing their names rehearsed over toddy-hot at a public bar.

Behind these two young swells stands a man whose seedy attire, and thirsty look, stamps him as of the genus "bummer."

He is exceedingly anxious to have a part in the conversation, and takes advantage of an opportunity to put in a word, edging up alongside the bar at the same time, with a mighty insinuating glance at the whiskey-toddy.

Half an invitation to join in a drink is only required to bring forth an affirmative response.

He is a friend that will stick closer than a brother, so long as there is plenty of the good creature with which to satiate his greedy thirst.

As soon as he sees that your money is gone, he has "an appointment, and must be excused; but another night, etc."

Then comes the perpetual "toper;" there he is—that man with the beet-colored nasal organ.

So long as he has money, he spends it freely; and then, when that is gone, like our friend bummer, he insinuates himself into the good graces of more fortunate heighbors.

A jolly, but rather dilapidated looking fellow is the "toper."

When sober he is miserable, and when drunk he is the happiest man slive.

In quality of the special series

He has a gloing data well polished boots, and is good-looking withal.

He is seldon known to spend a cent, but he doesn't object to take a drink and borrow as dollar.

He is essentially "hard up," "waiting for remittances," etc.

This man is termed, in bar-room linge, a "dead beat."

He is very contidential.

He pours the story of his wrongs, his mishaps, his hopes and expectations, all, all into your ears; and this will he do for the trouble of a small loan.

He is ashamed to ask it, but then, you know, circumstances compel us.

Strange things are circumstances, and very opportune for our friend " dead beat."

In another part of the room, sitting in a corner, is a somewhat sombre looking man, with his hat almost covering his eyes, his shoes down at the heels, and his garments generally of a by no means modern appearance.

He seems known to most of the visitants.

He drinks a good deal when he has the money, and his general mode of bar-room life partakes, in a great measure, both of the "bummer" and the "beat;" the only difference being, he works when compelled.

This man may be recognized by various signs as a Bohemian of literature.

He is seen during all hours of the day flitting amongst the various newspaper offices.

Now he has an article for the Daily Watter, and now a story for the Weekly MUMMY; and again, a sketch for the FAMILY GOSSIP.

A seedy looking customer is our Bohemian. He is a favorite with the host at the bar, and is good for a drink; but, mind you, only a drink.

There it is that he is superior to the bummers and the beats, and you may be sure he appreciates the distinction.

The man who can obtain credit, even for a drink, is a veritable king in a bar-room.

Then we have the ordinary bar-room customer; the man when sober, talks rationally enough, and pays for all he calls for.

Sometimes, when a "little on," he quotes poetry, attempts to imitate Forrest or Booth, and, if a little "tighter," indulges in a song.

When in this state he is always "flush," and he is at once a jolly good fellow, which nobody will deny.

There are other characters to be met with in a bar-room, had we time to sketch them.

There is the roue, the gambler, and the pickpocket; the man of ruined reputation, the young man who promised well, the old man who has a tale to tell of bygone times.

The bar-room affords us truly an insight into human nature which we can obtain nowhere else.

In a future article we may probably refer to scenes in a bar-room at midnight, having special reference to those places open all night.

In the meantime, if any of your readers would know how half the world live, let them spend an evening in a Metropolitan Bar-

# JOSH BILLINGS ON AMERIKANS.

Amerikans love caustick things; they would prefer turpentine tew column ter, if they had tew drink either.

So with their reliah of humor; they must hav it on the half-thell with onyeme.

An Englishman wants his fun smothered deep in mint same, and he is willing tew wait till next day before he tastes it.

If yu tickle or convince an Amerikan yu hav got tew do it quick.

An American luvs tow laff, but he don't luv tew make a binances ov it; he works, eats, and haw have on a canter.

I guess the English hav more wit, and the Amerikans more humor.

We havn't had time, yet, tew bile down our humor and git the wit out ov it.

The English are better punsters, but i konsider punning a sort ov literary prostitushun in which futur happyness iz swopped oph for the plezzure ov the moment.

There is one thing i hav noticed: evryboddy that writes expeckts tew be wize or witty-so duz evryboddy expect tew be saved when they die; but there iz good reason tew beleave that the goats hereafter will be in the majority, just az the sheep are here.

Don't forgit one thing, yu hav got tew be wize before yu kan be witty; and don't forgit two things, a single paragraff haz made sum men immortal, while a volume haz bin wuss than a pile-driver tew others-but what would Amerikans dew if it want for their sensashuns?

Sumthing new, sumthing startling iz necessary for us az a people, and it don't make mutch matter what it iz—a huge defalkashun -a red elephant-or Jersee clams with pearls in them will answer if nothing better offers.

# FROM DEBORAH DUNN'S LETTERS TO THE BOUDOIR.

New York, December, 1865.

Nobody knows until they have tried how difficult it is to write a good story. It seems easy enough, especially when the plot is ready furnished to your hand. But it is not sufficient to string together, like onions, a series of incidents and events-they must not only be exciting and pathetic, like that fragrant vegetable, but they must agree harmoniously together (which mine never can be made to do,) and then again they must not overwhelm with their pungency. And of all stories, a humorous one requires the most pruning down. The trouble there is not that you will say too little but too much. Perhaps I am apt to say too much out of stories as well as in them. Perhaps I am deficient in humor, for I never could laugh very heartily at the diown in the circus. or at the fat countrymen who cracks jokes in the steamboat saloons; and I never could see anything very funny in bad spelling. Whatever the cause may be, my humorous stories are enough to make a harlequin weep; and this is why I never attempted to weave a story

out of an adicattire of Mary last winter will tell you the incident as briefly as possible.

Did you ever amuse yourself reading the advertisaments for wives which appear daily in some of the papers? There being five of us unmarried girls at home, our talk often runs, very naturally, upon lovers and husbands; and we frequently read these advertisements, and speculate as to what manner of men they may be who do such things. Well, one evening last winter, when we were chattering some foolish talk of this kind, Mary suddenly spoke out of her corner, where she had sat as quiet as a mouse: "We may all think such things very absurd; but very nice people, the best of people, as good as any of us, and people we know, too, take advantage of them."

We all stared. "Have you and the 'wealthy gentleman just returned from Europe' just signed a contract?" asked Susie, in her pertest manner.

"You are a ridiculous child," said Mary coloring violently. "But do any of you know how Mrs. Clare Thornton made the acquaintance of her husband?"

"She met him first in Boston at a review, or parade, or something of that kind," said Helen. "She has told me, but I have forgotten."

"But did she tell you that she had corresponded with him before she met him?" asked Mary.

"Nothing of the kind," said Helen, "and I don't believe she did. Mrs. Clare Thornton would never do so unlady-like a thing."

"Ladylike or not, she did it," said Mary, rather warmly, I thought. "Patty Revere told me about it the other day, in the strictest confidence, and it must never be mentioned out of this sitting-room. Mr. Clare Thornton was a man of excellent family, and had wealth and position, and yet he advertised for a wife. Hannah Brown answered the advertisement; a meeting was arranged to take place on some public occasion, and she was to take a friend with her."

"Just like a duel," interrupted Susie.

"She took Patty, and she was punctual to the appointment. They were mutually pleased, and, after he had visited her for some time at her father's house, she became Mrs. Clare Thornton, with the approbation of all her friends."

"They both fired at the same time, and both shots taking effect, they were carried off the ground mortally wounded," said Susie, sticking her needle in the nose of a silk dog.

"Well, of all the strange things I ever did hear!" said Helen; and here she stopped. Helen's remarks are not very striking, generally, and whether she would have said any thing brilliant on this occasion, will never be known; for, Rob coming in, the subject was instantly dropped.

But I was not in the least surprised when Mary called me into the sitting room the next morning, and informed me in the lowest whisper, though there was no one else in the room, that she had answered an advertisement. " I am frightened whenever I think of what I have done, Deborah," said she, "and I wouldn't have done it but for poor Pa-he ought to be relieved of some of his burdens. Oh! you needn't laugh. I am telling the exact truth and I feel as if I had done wrong, somehow, to stay here so long; but I couldn't | many a woman like her.

help it; and you know, and Me knows, and we all know that it's dreadful for five unmarried girls to be in one family, and the youngest twenty-one; and I'm sure what's going to become of us I don't kmow; and all the young men in our set look out for rich wives, and I don't blame them, with muslin seventy cents a yard; and butter to match: and you know it's as much as we can do to get beaux to go about with us, to say nothing of lovers; Susie and Rob both call me an old maid; and it's too bad; there's no reason why I shouldn't get married as well as Mary English and Mary Miller, ugly, ill-tempered things as they are; and it's all because they have got money, and it's too bad-it's too ba-a-ad!" and here poor Mary broke into sobs.

I was sorry for her, for every word she had said was true, though we are not usually so very plain in our statements, even to each other.

"Come, Mary," said I, "what's the use of making all these excuses to me? Let me see the advertisement, in the first place."

She took a soiled and crumpled scrap of paper out of her pocket, whereon I read the following:

"A gentleman, thirty-six years of age, good-looking, and of pleasing manners and address, wishes to make the acquaintance of a lady between twenty five and thirty, with a view to matrimony. She must be agreeable, well educated, and of a domestic disposition. Money no object, as the advertiser has some property, and is at present engaged in a lucrative business. Address, etc., etc."

"It does not promise much at first sight," said Mary, " but I was pleased with it for that very reason. He evidently is not wealthy, but I agree with Augusta that it is much safer to marry a man who is doing a good business than one of those very rich men whose fortunes may be in stocks, or some of those other kind of things that burst in a moment, and where are you? The description of the lady suits me exactly. Between twenty-five and thirtyjust my age." (Mary is thirty-one, but as she looks younger, I forebore to remind her of the

"Have you proposed a place of meeting?" said I, not knowing exactly what else to say.

"Oh! no indeed! but I wrote to him under an assumed name, and asked him to send his photograph, which he did. I think I will tell aunt Hattie, and appoint the meeting at her

So saying, she took a vignette out of her pocket-book, and held it before me. It was a good face, but Mary praised it more than it deserved. "It seems to me," she said at last, surveying it critically, with her head on o side, "that I have seen that face before. It looks strangely familiar, and it may be we met, and did not know we were destined for each other."

The face had seemed familiar to me, too, and now, as Mary spoke, a horrible suspicion crossed my mind; but I said nothing.

Mary, in her usual blundering style, had forgotten to lock the door; and now her evil genius sent Rob into the room for his school books, and he was by her side and gazing at photograph before she knew he had entered the room.

"I'll be dinged" he exclaimed, "if that ain't the likeness of our milkman!"

What story Mary told Rob I never knew, for I made my escape that I might have a laugh in my own room. But the laugh ended in a cry while thinking of poor Mary, and

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# THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY,

# **OUR YOUNG FOLKS**

JANUARY, 1866;

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Passages from Hawthorne's Diary; Castles in the Beauty and the Beast; the Wilderness; the Bells of Lynn Hoard at Nahant; the High Tide of December; Lucy's Letters; Doctor Johns; Wind the Clock; the Kingdom Coming; the Chimney Corner for 1866; Griffith Gaunt, II; Reviews and Literary Notices

Among the contributors to this number are Henry W. Longfellow, W. C. Bryant, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Charles Reade, Bayard Taylor, Donald G. Mitchell, Mrs. H. B. Stowe, author of Life in the Iron Mills, J. T. Trowsender, Gail Hamilton, Anne H. Brewster, and H. Rich.

#### OUR YOUNG FOLKS

Contains the following articles:

The Three Lights, by Mrs.A.D.T. Whitney; the Two Christmas Evenings, by L. Maria Child; the Inequalities of Fortune, by Gail Hamilton; the Tale of Two Knights I., by Charles Dawson Shanly; the Tiny Mahogany Box, by Margaret Eytinge; a Summer in Leslie Goldthwaite's Life, by the author of Faith Gartney's Girlhood; An Old Legend, by Rose Terry; the Hen that Hatched Ducks, by Harriet Beecher Stowe; Two Ways of Telling a Story, by Jean Ingelow; an Adventure in the Vermillion Sea, by Capt. Mayne Reid; Harriet Beecher Stowe.

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ON BATURDAY EXPERING, JAM, 18, at 8, Mr. Thomas takes great pleasure in announcing to the subscribers and the public generally, that he has succeeded in making arrangements with Mr. Bateman for the appearance of the substrated and popular Prima Donna, M'ILE PAREPA.

AT HIS THEN STAPHONY SOURCE, by Mdlle. PAREPA'S Last Appearance previous to her departure for Europa.

RATURDAY Evening, Jan. 18, at 8.

THIRD SYMPHONY SOIRER.

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M'LLE, PAREPA.

MR. CARL WOLFSOHN,

The whole under the direction of THEO. THOMAS.

PROGRAMMS:

Pantasia, F Minor, op. 40...... Chopin

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Overture, Melusine, Op. 32 ..... Mendelssohn

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Aria, 'If guiltless blood be your intent' (Susanna) Handel.

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Pantasia, Op. 80, for Plano, Chorus and Orches-..... Beethoven

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Open at half-past seven. Begin at eight. SATURDAY

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